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PATENT
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Kenji KOBAYASHI) Confirmation No.: 3932
Application No.: 10/588,953) Group Art Unit: 3677
Filed: June 1, 2007) Examiner: Lavinder, Jack W.
For: BINDING PIECE AND BINDING)
APPARATUS)

Commissioner of Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to the examination of the above-identified application on the merits, please amend the application as follows.